

School Board Candidate Petitions for Open Seats- Due July 27, 2015

On the ballot in the November General Election, Merchantville will have three open seats on the Board of Education, each for a three year term. Petitions for those seeking to have their name on the ballot for those seats are due to the Camden County Clerk's Office by Monday, July, 27, 2015. Candidates who are elected to these positions will join the nine-member elected Board when it reorganizes in January, 2016, and will serve for three years.

Currently, the three seats that are up for reelection are held by: Elliot Honigfeld, Janice Engelke, and Richard James.

In New Jersey, to become a member of a local board of education, the candidate must:

- Be able to read and write
- Hold U.S. citizenship and one year's residency in the school district
- Be registered to vote in the district before filing the nominating petition
- Have no interest in any contract with, or claim against, the board
- Not hold office as mayor or member of the municipal governing body or, in the case of county school districts, the county governing body
- Not simultaneously hold two elective offices
- Not be disqualified from membership for the conviction of certain crimes. (Within 30 days of election or appointment to the board, a member must undergo a criminal history background investigation through the State Department of Education.)

Petitions to apply for candidacy are available from the Camden County Clerk's Office, www.camdencounty.com/clerk. Information on school board candidacy is available from the NJ School Boards Association at www.njsba.org/about/candidacy/.